



Programme Specification (PG)

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| Awarding body / institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Teaching institution: | Queen Mary University of London |
| Name of final award and title: | LLM in International Trade and Economic Law with SQE Preparation |
| Name of interim award(s): | Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate |
| Duration of study / period of registration: | 1 year full time, 2 years part time. |
| Queen Mary programme code(s): | PSELT |
| QAA Benchmark Group: | |
| FHEQ Level of Award: | Level 7 |
| Programme accredited by: | |
| Date Programme Specification approved: | |
| Responsible School / Institute: | Centre for Commercial Law Studies |

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

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Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

BARBRI

Programme outline

In just one generation, the world has witnessed a dramatic increase in the economic interdependence of countries and shifts in global economic power. This reshaped global economic map has many drivers, including key international institutions and accords that seek to promote enhanced competitiveness, trade and foreign direct investment globally. The LLM in International Trade and Economic Law aims to provide students with both a theoretical understanding and practical legal skills set for analysing the roles that these institutions play in regulating these crucial international economic relations and their specific rules that often become the agreed framework for national regulation across various economic sectors. It also enables students to explore the significant policy issues that arise in the development and implementation of these international economic legal frameworks. The programme offers a comprehensive range of modules that focus on these international economic regulatory frameworks as they impact diverse economic sectors, including finance, trade, investment, innovation and knowledge. It also provides students a unique opportunity to critically explore pressing development, environmental and financial stability concerns arising from the globalisation of the world economy in a genuinely international atmosphere. The programme equips students with knowledge and skills suitable for careers in government, international organizations, law firms and NGOs concerned with international trade, investment, finance and development.

SQE1 and SQE2 represent 60 credits (SQE1 = 45 credits, SQE2 = 15 credits) of the total 180 credits within this LLM. For those students who are only required to take SQE1 (*experienced, qualified lawyers with work experience in another jurisdiction, may

be exempt from taking SQE2 to qualify as a Solicitor in England and Wales), these students can take an additional 15-credit QMUL module on their chosen legal pathway specialism. SQE1 and SQE2 will prepare and enable students to take their next step to qualifying as a solicitor in England & Wales.

The SQE modules are delivered by our collaborative partner BARBRI, who have experience of preparing more than 1.3m students for practitioner qualification examinations, and have highly developed technology platforms to prepare students effectively for the mandated regulatory examinations which include multiple-choice examination formats. BARBRI bring their experienced, expert faculty, learning coaches and teaching team as part of their delivery of these modules.

Aims of the programme

The purpose of the LLM in International Trade and Economic Law is to enable individuals to acquire or strengthen their skills and knowledge base to develop in-depth expertise in International Trade and Economic Law law informed by leading scholarship in the field.

It aims to give students opportunities to:

- develop analytical skills enabling them to understand, use and apply International Economic Law effectively, whether in an academic or professional context;
- acquire an insight in the driving forces, dynamics and constraints that shape International Economic Law;
- strengthen their critical skills and ability to place legal developments on global economic governance in their wider context;
- enhance their ability to carry out thorough, focused and comprehensive research in the field of International Economic Law.
- access to a rewarding learning experience through regular interaction with course teachers, practitioners, visiting academics and fellow students
- acquire knowledge and skills suitable for careers in government, international organizations, law firms and NGOs concerned with international trade, investment, finance and development

The modules delivered by BARBRI will:

- Offer graduating students a practice-focused graduate programme
- Develop career/employment skills required to qualify as a solicitor in England & Wales.

What will you be expected to achieve?

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to:

- understand the key legal principles, issues and debates on International Economic Law
- apply the acquired knowledge on international economic law to real problems both in a practical and a scholarly manner.
- provide expert comment on the current state of International Economic Law and policy based on their own informed opinion
- recognise the standard of research and analysis expected from a post-graduate law student and be capable of producing research to that standard.

Upon completion of SQE1 and SQE2 students will develop skills, knowledge and behaviours to prepare them for employment and a career as a solicitor, including:

- commercial awareness;
- oral and written communication skills;
- developing career goals;
- engaging critically and reflectively with knowledge;
- building practical workplace skills (assessments will be practical skills ones as well as written 'knowledge' assessments);
- problem solving;
- understanding societal issues and challenges;
- collaboration skills;
- developing digital fluency (the course will include use of digital platforms); and
- developing flexibility and resilience.

Academic Content:

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| A 1 | Acquire a thorough understanding of the legal principles and methods used for the governance of international trade, investment, finance and monetary cooperation |
| A 2 | Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the purpose and functions of key international economic institutions such as the IMF, World Bank and the WTO |
| A 3 | Identify the social, economic, political and ideological factors influencing the regulation of international economic activities |
| A 4 | Develop a thorough understanding of The Legal System of England and Wales, and be able to evaluate, synthesise, and apply its complex, constituent elements in practical scenarios of legal practice, across the mandated curriculum of knowledge, skills and behaviours required to become a solicitor in England and Wales. |

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| Disciplinary Skills - able to: | |
| B 1 | Identify and analyse hard law, soft law and policies on international economic governance |
| B 2 | Adopt a critical and contextual perspective on international economic legal issues and put forward an informed, reasoned opinion making appropriate use of legal argumentation |
| B 3 | Advise on the consistency of domestic governmental measures with international economic commitments and standards |
| B 4 | To clearly show a full understanding of, and have the ability to synthesise and evaluate, the key principles of law and practice relating to the mandated SQE areas of Functioning Legal Knowledge, and to develop and critically reflect on, the legal practice skills required to satisfy the mandated skills assessment specification of the SQE. |

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| Attributes: | |
| C 1 | Read long or complex materials fast, strategically and analytically |
| C 2 | Communicate ideas clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing |
| C 3 | Learn independently, including reflecting on one's own learning, making use of feedback and seeking appropriate assistance when required |
| C 4 | Search for and use information competently, including using appropriate technologies to access information, evaluating the reliability of sources and relying on appropriate information as evidence to support arguments and decision-making |
| C 5 | Demonstrate the critical reasoning (and practical thinking) skills for evaluating and making judgements on the different options for legal service provision, clearly showing their ability to analyse complex client situations, synthesising large amounts of legal knowledge to find the best approach for clients. |

How will you learn?

Students will learn through direct interaction with lecturers using a variety of teaching, learning and assessment strategies, including traditional and interactive lectures, seminar sessions, tutorials and e-learning. Students will also be expected to invest a significant amount of time in independent learning, including reading materials in advance of lectures/seminars, preparing class presentations, completing assignments and preparing for examinations.

In addition, students who opt for a dissertation will need to carry out extensive research. Students will be provided with a variety of legal resources and receive training on how to use them.

Students will use the market-leading BARBRI digital learning platform, combined with a series of live workshops, case studies, and interactive exercises to prepare for some of the practical mandated assessments in SQE1 and SQE2 preparation modules.

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How will you be assessed?

Assessment is by examination, oral presentation, essays, reflective learning portfolio and/or coursework for taught modules and by dissertation.

How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

Master of Laws (LLM)

- Students on the LLM have to complete 180 credits comprising of:
 - 90 credits compulsory modules
 - 30 credits from the guided elective modules
 - 60 credits core modules: SQEP001 & SQE002
- Part-time students are normally expected to take 90 credits each year of their programme but this may be varied by special permission.
- Part-time students are normally expected to take 45 credits in each semester of their programme but this may be varied by special permission.

COMPULSORY = COMPULSORY
ELECTIVE = GUIDED ELECTIVE

Academic Year of Study FT - Year 1

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|--|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Regulation of Financial Markets | SOLM003 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Transnational Law and Governance in Practice | SOLM027 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Transnational Law and Governance Applied | SOLM028 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| EU Trade Law | SOLM035 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|---|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Investment Treaty Arbitration: Investor claims and State Defences | SOLM353 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Legal Aspects of Paperless Trade | SOLM148 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 3 |
| International Investment Law | SOLM189 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Foreign Investments and Public Policy | SOLM190 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| WTO Law: Fundamental Principles | SOLM192 | 30 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| International Economic Law | SOLM194 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| International Economic Law Clinic | SOLM263 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Dissertation in International Trade and Economic Law | SOLM936 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semesters 2 & 3 |
| Animal Law, Welfare and Trade | SOLM025 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| The EU and international law: EU external economic relations | SOLM287 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Economics of Intellectual Property | SOLM293 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 3 |
| Law of International Financial Institutions | SOLM306 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| International Commercial Law | SOLM019 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| WTO Law: Domestic Regulations and Compliance | SOLM341 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| WTO Law: Trade Remedies | SOLM340 | 15 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Global Intellectual Property Law | SOLM084 | 30 | 7 | Elective | 1 | Semester 1 |
| SQE1 Preparation Module | SQEP001 | 45 | 7 | Core | 1 | Semester 1 |
| SQE2 Preparation Module | SQEP002 | 15 | 7 | Core | 1 | Semesters 2 & 3 |

What are the entry requirements?

The usual qualification for entry to the LLM programme is a degree in law, or a degree with a substantial law content, of at least 2.1 honours (or equivalent). Law graduates with 2.2 honours who also have other legal qualifications and/or substantial professional legal experience may also qualify.

Non-law graduates with a minimum second class honours degree, that have also obtained a Merit (or 60 per cent) in the Common Professional Examination (CPE) or Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) recognised by the UK professional bodies, may also qualify. Non-law graduates may also be considered on the basis of exceptional professional experience (of at least five years) in a legal area or an area directly related to their programme of study.

Applicants whose first language is not English must provide evidence of your English language proficiency. The usual English Language Requirements for Postgraduate Law Taught Programmes will apply. These may be accessed at <http://www.law.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/english-language-requirements/index.html#Postgraduatelawtaughtprogrammes>

How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?

The Student Voice Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between the Centre and its students. The Committee consists of student representatives from each programme in the Centre together with appropriate representation of academic and administrative staff. The Committee is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. The Committee meets regularly throughout the year.

The Centre operates a Postgraduate Taught Law Education Committee that advises its Director of Education on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at the Centre, including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies. It also reviews proposals for new programmes and modules and proposed amendments to existing programmes and modules, before they are submitted to the Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the Committee's work in various ways, such as through consideration of module experience surveys.

The Centre regularly reviews its taught postgraduate taught provision. This is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey and module experience surveys. This information is provided to the Faculty as part of regular censuses of the Centre's activities.

In addition, an extensive, experienced team of senior tutors (and practitioners) are available to students at our partner organisation BARBRI throughout their study of the 1-2 BARBRI Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) preparation modules which the students take. Students will also be giving ongoing feedback to this tutor team at BARBRI which will be fed back into CCLS/the DoL.

What academic support is available?

Students will receive a comprehensive induction. Students will be assisted with the preliminary stages of selecting a research topic, drafting a research proposal, considering their methodology and developing the skills needed to identify and use relevant materials. Lecturers on taught modules shall be available to discuss any concerns students might have with regard to the particular module or its content.

Students will be supervised by BARBRI Faculty as they work their way through online course materials, managing their progress through the student dashboard, supported by the BARBRI faculty and team of learning coaches, specialising in different areas of legal practice.

Programme-specific rules and facts

Students who are already practising lawyers with the required amount of work experience in their home jurisdiction, may be exempt from SQEP002 SQE2 Preparation Module. For students who are exempt, they will be permitted to take an additional 15-credits from the modules available within the specialism.

SQEP001 and SQEP002 will be Pass/Fail and the marks will not count towards the calculation of the overall classification. The

classification will be calculated using 120 credits (135 credits for exemption students) delivered by PG Law.

If students elect to do a dissertation, the dissertation must also fall within the International Trade and Economic Law LLM modules.

Students who do not meet the requirements for the LLM will be considered for an exit award. A student will be awarded the highest applicable award for which they meet all requirements as per the Academic Regulations:

- i. Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in International Trade and Economic Law with SQE Preparation
- ii. Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in Law

How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Examination Access Arrangements
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

There is a mentoring programme that matches students with available mentors from the profession. An embedded Careers and professional development team provide guidance in identifying and obtaining relevant internships, valuable employment-related skills and other work-related opportunities. There is a programme of co-curricular activities designed to foster professional development and related skills.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification:

Leonie Dos Santos

Person responsible for management of programme:

Kamala Dawar

Date Programme Specification produced / amended by School / Institute Education Committee:

26 Feb 2025

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board: